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N. E. FARMER.

For the New England Farmer.

BONES AND ASHES.

Allen Putnam, Esq.—Dear Sir—One question I neglected to ask in my inquiries of last week: it is this:—Which would you choose for light lands that you were about to lay down to grass, *ashes* or *bones*, if both cost the same? I do not know that you will understand me; but it is this: If one hundred bushels of spent ashes spread, would cost a certain sum, would you, or not, prefer bones, in quantity to amount to the same cost?

What amount of bones would you apply to an acre of light sandy soil?

Ashes cost with us, delivered and spread, about 13 cts. per bushel; and ground bones, unboiled, 50 to 60 cts., according to fineness.

Very truly yours with respect,

WM. C. CHAPIN.

Providence, Jan. 17, 1842.

☞Any answer to a question like the foregoing, must be rather a matter of *opinion* than of *knowledge*, until bones have had a more full trial than our community has yet given to them. We shall reply to the inquiry, but it will be with a consciousness that the answer ought not to have much weight with any one; for even *we* are unwilling to have much confidence in the correctness of the opinion we now hold, until our experience in the use of bones shall become more extensive. Ashes are undoubtedly *very good* for grass, and good also for most other crops. Light land is generally favorable for both ashes and bones. The *spent* ashes are said to be more serviceable near the sea coast where salt from the atmosphere combines with them, than they are in the interior. If this be true, such ashes are worth more as a manure at Providence, R. I., than they are in most parts of the country. Our own experiments and most of our careful observations have been made within a very few miles of the ocean; and even there we should now take the bones in preference to the ashes, if we could have but one. That is, we should choose 25 bushels of bones rather than 100 of spent ashes. Could we, however, have 50 bushels of ashes and 12 1-2 of bones, and mix the two thoroughly, adding to the mixture three or four cartloads of soil, and let the heap remain undisturbed and ferment for two or three weeks previous to its application to the land—we should choose this in preference to either by itself. We would choose it, even if we had to deduct enough from the quantity of bone and ashes to pay for the labor of mixing. Our trials have been made with bones that were boiled before they were ground; and if, with such, we think we can do as well as with ashes, our correspondent who proposes to use unboiled, perhaps may hope to do better. For though it be true that the phosphate of lime is the *principal* property in bones that acts as a fertilizer; and though this is not extracted by boiling—yet the oily and gelatinous matters which the boiling does remove, are good fertilizers, and therefore unboiled bones, if the perishable matters in them can be preserved, are probably the best—particularly the first year. We give below extracts from the Transactions of the Essex Agricultural Society, 1838. These detail our own experience with bones.

"Shall I tell you too what virtue there is in bones? From Mr Ward, of Roxbury, I obtained, last spring, 20 bushels ground bone; (cost at Roxbury, 35 cents per bushel;) sold one bushel to a neighbor; mixed the remaining 19 bushels with about one cord of soil taken from the side of the roads in the fields where the mixture was to be used. Some of it was used in ten or twelve days after it had been mixed, and some remained in heap five or six weeks. About the 10th of May, when planting corn where four cords of manure to the acre had the previous autumn been turned under the sod, and where I was putting four cords to the acre in the hill, I selected four rows through the centre of the piece, in which I put the bone mixture, at the rate of 50 bushels bone to the acre; no other manure *in the hill*. The corn here looked as well through the season as on the remainder of the piece, and ripened a little earlier. At the time of harvesting, 104 hills on bone yielded 184 lbs. of corn on the cob. The same number of hills in the adjacent rows on manure, yielded 188 3-4 lbs. That on the bone was the dryest at the time of weighing.

"The first week in May, I planted a piece of corn, where I put 3 1-2 cords of manure upon the furrow, and 4 cords in the hill, to the acre. Through the centre, I left four rows until about the 10th of May, when I planted them with bone, as in the other piece. Here, from 66 hills on bone, I obtained 90 lbs.; from 66 on manure, 96 lbs. Here, too, the corn on the bone ripened earlier, and of course weighed less.

"May 21st, when planting potatoes where four cords of manure to the acre had been turned under the sod the previous autumn, and where I was putting five cords to the acre in the hill, two rows were planted on bone, 50 bushels to the acre. This ground was furrowed only one way, and the hills on the bone happened to be put nearer to each other than those on the manure. When dug, *equal quantities* of ground were taken; of bone, 14 hills; of manure, 12 hills; the bone yielded 55 lbs.; the manure 52.

"Between the 15th and 20th of May, I sowed sugar beet, in drills, 3 feet apart. In some, used barn manure, 6 cords to the acre; in others, muscle bed or sea marl, 5 cords; in others bone, 50 bushels. Three drills of each kind, about three rods long, yielded as follows, viz: from barn manure, 247 lbs.; muscle-bed, 355 lbs.; bone, 337 1-2.

"At the same season, I sowed carrots on barn manure, muscle-bed and bone. Barn manure, 6 cords to the acre; muscle-bed, 4; bone, 50 bushels. Some of the bone and the other manures were spread broadcast, and a part of the bone was put in the drill; rows 14 inches apart. Two rows of each kind, three rods long, yielded as follows: Barn manure, 75 lbs.; bone in drill, 105 lbs.; bone spread, 82 lbs.; muscle-bed, 88 1-2 lbs.

"I sowed with ruta baga, June 1st, 10 drills, 3 feet apart and 15 rods long; five drills on barn manure, part of it fresh from the barn cellar and part partially decomposed, 9 cords to the acre. The other five on bone, 50 bushels to the acre. Those on the bone were less eaten by the fly than the others, though the others were not very badly injured. A strip (17 feet in length) across the drills, where 5 had bone and 5 manure partially decomposed, yielded: bone, 248 lbs.; manure, 228 lbs.

"Another strip, 16 1-2 feet long, where there was bone and fresh manure, gave bone, 212 lbs.; manure, 227 lbs.

"About the 10th of June, I sowed ruta baga on reclaimed meadow land; drills 3 feet apart; manure 9 cords to the acre; bone 50 bushels. Soon after the plants came up, those on the barn manure were nearly all destroyed by the fly; it was necessary to sow a second time. Those on the bone were but very little injured. Four drills, two rods long, on bone, yielded 486 1-2 lbs.; four on manure, 439 lbs. Daniel Putnam.

North Danvers, Dec. 5, 1838."

In the autumn of 1839, we said to the farmers of Essex—

"Bone manure, last season, did pretty well. In all the operations I have aided to make with it the present year, it has been so mixed up with other ingredients that it is impossible to judge of its efficacy. The corn where it was used, wore in the early part of the season, a most sorrowful and forlorn aspect; the warm suns of July, however, enlivened its spirits and changed its complexion. Its present size would rebuke me were I to assert that it has not found somewhere a pretty good supply of nourishment. In the field of a friend, who left his corn to feed upon bones and meadow mud, or starve, its aspect a few weeks since, indicated that the food was either difficult of mastication or hard to digest. Its growth was less vigorous and its appearance less healthy than that of the surrounding corn upon different diet. A rust, a bad rust, was upon all its leaves while the neighboring corn on all sides was bright and healthy in its appearance. Probably you can find more economical means of enriching your soils, than that of procuring bones."

The experiment upon which the above remarks were founded, was this:—About 60 bushels of bone and 60 bushels of live ashes were mixed with three cords of soil. After two or three weeks' fermentation, this compost was put in the hill for three acres of corn. About 20 bushels of bone and 20 of ashes per acre. Four cords of good barn manure per acre had previously been plowed in. One acre of this field yielded 80 bushels of corn; but this acre was much the best. We then thought pretty well of bones; but judging from the effects upon the first crop only, the conclusion was that other manures might be procured at less expense compared with their effects.—The field of corn

here spoken of, was cultivated without any hill. And grass seed was sowed among it at the last time of hoeing. Consequently the mixture of bone and ashes lies unmoved in the hills where it was originally placed. In the spring of 1840, we saw the clover growing luxuriantly in hills. The same with the second crop. Also in 1841 the same effects were seen in both first and second growth. That is, while the whole soil had been well dressed with good manure for two, and some of it for three successive years, so that the grass did well between the hills, (we use the expression for convenience, though in fact there was no *hill* there,) while the whole was in good condition, the clover, where the roots found the bone and ashes, has for two successive years, in both the first and second crop, been so much larger than on the remainder of the ground, that the difference could be discerned at any distance at which *the field* could be distinctly seen. The continued good effect upon the grass has caused the article to rise in our estimation.

But the question will come—why ascribe these effects to the bone, when you used as many ashes as bones? They both do good undoubtedly. But the small patch where the potatoes were put upon bones, *without ashes*, in 1838, was sowed to barley and grass seed in 1839. Here, in 1840, and also in 1841, the clover was so much larger than upon the surrounding land, that its superiority in the month of June, could be discerned at as great a distance as you can ordinarily distinguish the spot where you made your manure heap upon the field. The latter instance, for ought that we can see to the contrary, is a fair proof that 50 bushels of bone per acre, where 4 cords of barn manure had been plowed in, is very much more serviceable in the way of producing hay, in the third and fourth years after its application, than would be 5 cords of good strong fresh barn cellar manure.

The soil in the above trials was a good warm loam, 6 to 8 inches deep, resting upon a hard gravelly subsoil. The land has been in tillage and mowing for some ages—probably as many ages as almost any in America.

These trials were made on my father's farm in Danvers; but the applications were made under my own eye, and to a considerable extent by my own hands. The weighing and measuring was done by myself, and as far as the *facts* go, they may be relied upon.

The growth of grass in 1840 and 1841, caused my father and myself also, to change our opinion of the worth of bones. We both obtained them for use last spring, and we both intend to use them still more extensively the coming spring. The effect of a part of what we applied the last spring to a crop of ruta baga, is given in the N. E. Farmer of Nov. 3. That was used in connection with soapboilers' waste ley. The turnip, containing considerable phosphate of lime, is probably benefited by bone more than most other crops. Clover—and it is on that mainly that we have made observations—clover is more benefited by it than redtop or timothy.

But while we speak well of bones, the inference must not be made that they will be found equally good on all soils. Mr Haggerston could find no benefit from them on Mr Cushing's farm, in Watertown. The soil there is much stronger and heavier than any where we have applied the article.

Our use of bone has been more free than we shall make in future. Twenty bushels to the acre is as much as we shall apply next year. In September last, we sowed bone from the cask, 9 bushels to the acre, (no other manure,) on old pasture land, and harrowed it in with winter rye, which we were then sowing. In one month from that time the rye was quite perceptibly larger, where the bone was used than where there was none. The openness of the winter—the repeated freezings and thawings it is undergoing, will probably do the rye much harm. Should it survive, we design to ascertain the precise benefit of this sparing application to the rye crop.

Our correspondent speaks of using *unboiled* bones. We apprehend that fresh bones, unboiled, would be exceedingly difficult to grind, and that when ground it would be impossible to keep them from rapid putrefaction and most offensive effluvia, since the marrow, oil and flesh must ferment and decay rapidly. Age may fit bones for use—but would not age take from them the same matters that are taken by boiling? By these remarks we intend to intimate a doubt whether any bones better than boiled ones, will answer the purpose for grinding and using as a manure.

We have hardly answered the question before us so definitely as we could wish. There have been no accurate experiments comparing the two articles in question as far as we know. We can only repeat our recommendation, which is to use *both*; and this we do because of the different natures of the substances, each furnishing much that the crops want, and because the ashes help to decompose the bone.—Ed. N. E. F.

MR COLMAN'S REPORT.

We have previously mentioned the Fourth Report of the Agricultural Commissioner. We now allude to it again, not however with the purpose of reviewing it at length, but mainly with the design of giving to the author more particular attention than we have yet bestowed.

Mr Colman, probably, is entitled to the credit of being the cause of the passage of the resolves which established the commission under which he has been acting. For whatever good the survey has accomplished and will accomplish, the citizens of the Commonwealth and the country are more indebted to him than to any other man—perhaps more than to all other men. When he entered upon the duties of his office, he brought to it extraordinary zeal, activity, industry and inquisitiveness. It would be difficult to find another individual in our community who can collect facts from people widely scattered, and upon all questions relating to human interests, with facility and dispatch equal to Mr C.'s. He can be in more places, make acquaintance with more people, and put more questions in a given time, than any other man of our acquaintance. These peculiar powers he has been constantly putting forth. And consequently his collections of facts and opinions are exceedingly extensive.

In the last report he has arranged his materials with great skill, and thrown into the work more spirit and beauty of style, than can be found in any other work upon agriculture, that we have any acquaintance with. We have no fault to find with the work in any respect, excepting the slight one previously mentioned of introducing some pages of description, sentiment and morals, which, though beautiful, just and pleasant, we should not venture to put, even were we capable of producing them, into an official report. But in this we probably differ from most into whose hands the work will fall; and our criticism will act as much to our discredit as to his.

We have seen in some of the papers of the city, insinuations that it was a saving or economical disposition (to use no harsher term,) that induced the members of the Legislature to cut short the survey before it was completed. We had good opportunity to know fully the view taken of this matter by the Legislature, and we have no belief that a miserly disposition had any connection with the action which brought the Commissioner's labors to an abrupt close. The action in this case was such as we felt bound by our obligations to the Commonwealth not to oppose.

The report in question will do more to win for its author a high and lasting reputation as a useful laborer in behalf of agriculture, than all he has done before. It will be referred to in years and ages to come as a valuable collection of facts, from which most useful inferences may be drawn. It will continue to shed light upon husbandry, even when the present generation shall have given place to those who are yet unborn.

We know not who owns the copyright—but if the Commonwealth, would it not be well for the State to relinquish its right in favor of the author, and give him opportunity to re-publish all his reports, if it shall ever seem to him desirable.—Ed. N. E. F.

For the N. E. Farmer.

MANAGEMENT OF SWINE.

On this subject much has been said and written. People differ in opinion as much as they differ in looks. A. tells us *this* way is the best—B. says *that* way is the best, and C. differs from both. Under such conflicting opinions how shall we act? The answer is at hand. Give all opinions and methods due consideration, and then judge for ourselves. Or, in other words, "prove all things, hold fast that which is good." That which is good for *us*. Management that is good for one man, may not, in all cases, be good for another. Circumstances often alter cases. I will venture to give my opinion, and shall ask no one to regard it, if it be not worthy of consideration.

In the first place, *there must be a good piggery*. There is a greater failure in this respect, I think, than in any other. The swine are too cold in cold weather, and too warm in warm weather. The owners of these animals do not sufficiently consider that they require to be comfortable, in order to thrive and do well. It is a lamentable fact, notwithstanding so much has been said and written on the proper management of swine, that many have hogs that are continually *scolding* and *crying*; not so much on account of being scantily fed, as for the want of a comfortable piggery. I went by one of these miserable pens the other night, where the inmates were whining out something like the following:—

Oh! cruel master, why do ye
Confine us in this piggery?
Oh! here we lie, without a bed,
Dirty and wet, from foot to head;
Boreas comes in, from every crack,
And bites our *ears*, our *legs* and *back*:
Thus we shiver all the night;
We *scold*, we *whine*, and sometimes *bite*.
Hard master! shall it always be,
To have no *better piggery*?

Who can suppose that swine will do well, when so uncomfortable and restless, and nature forces them to whine out such heart-rending complaints?

A moment's reflection must convince every one that swine ought to have a dry, comfortable nest. Furthermore, it is highly necessary that it should be so, that they can bask in the sun in cold weather, and have the benefit of the air and shade in warm. There is no doubt but a third may be saved by good accommodations.

In the second place, *there must be suitable food and good attendance.*—Sows that have pigs, ought to have different keeping from what hogs generally have. In order to have their offspring do well, they not only must have meal, but a good supply of milk, or whey. This is soon imparted to their progeny, and, generally, (with good attendance,) produces what the owner so much desires. Parturition having taken place, care should be taken for a few days, not to over feed. After which, the sow ought to be fed five times a day, and have about what the appetite craves. In other cases, roots, especially the *potato*, can be used to great advantage. This, I think, is the most natural for swine, and can be raised (all things considered,) with the least expense. Not only roots, but meal, I believe, ought to be cooked. I very well know that there is some expense about it—but where the accommodations are good, there will be undoubtedly a great gain. Weaned pigs and swine that we are fatting, ought to be fed three times a day, and about such a time. Punctuality in this respect, is highly important. Some contend to feed twice per day is as well, or better, than oftener. But against this practice, reason and experience raise a powerful voice. Nature teaches that they require not only a breakfast and supper, but a dinner. The food must be of good quality and dealt out liberally, but not to cloy. Meal should be made of a mixture of grain; it is more palatable, and has a better effect upon the recipients. By feeding swine three times a day, in a proper manner, the stomach may be duly distended, but not so as to produce disease. Whereas, if the food that they have at three times, be given at two, it will so distend the stomach as to have this effect.

SENEX.

Westboro', Jan. 17, 1842.

GEN. BARNUM'S POTATO CROP.

At the agricultural meeting at the State House on Friday evening last, Mr Stone, of Beverly, in asserting that Mr Barnum, of Vermont, had raised 1500 bushels of potatoes per acre, was thought by many present to state what was incredible. To show that he might have *doubled* the amount stated, we copy the following from the N. E. Farmer, vol. xiii. page 204, which appeared originally in the Vergennes (Vt.) Gazette:

POTATOES.

The following is the result of some experiments I made during the present season in growing potatoes. Presuming the produce would be such as to partake too much of the *marvellous* for general belief, and some small risks having been taken on the result; to place it beyond the reach of doubt or contradiction, it was agreed to appoint Samuel Wilson, Esq., one of the Common Council of the city, and Mr R. Stowell, measurer, to superintend personally the measuring of the ground, the digging of the potatoes and the measuring of them in the most liberal manner, giving 38 quarts to the bushel. The following was the result of the different pieces:

No. 1,	at the rate of	1361	bush.	8	quarts.	
No. 2,	do.	do.	3410	do.		
No. 3,	do.	do.	2041	do.	28	do.
No. 4,	do.	do.	1654	do.	16	do.
No. 5,	do.	do.	2253	do.	3	do. *per acre.*

Average of the whole number of pieces, 1843 bushels and 5 133-161 quarts to the acre. The casting was performed by Benj. B. Allen, A. M. and Mr Sidney Dunton, mathematicians.

This may certify that the above is a correct estimate of the rate per acre of which the several lots of A. W. Barnum, (above described by their respective numbers,) produced.

BENJ. B. ALLEN.

Vergennes, Nov. 23, 1834.

Owing to the early drought, my first planting (late in April,) proved a failure, producing less than half a crop. In digging some early in June, for family use, I found they had not only ripened prematurely, but had put forth shoots, a second growth. In August, I discovered upon these sprouts, (which had then risen to the height of from 6 to 8 inches above the surface, assuming the top and appearance of a regular planted potato,) small potatoes from the size of a pea to that of an ounce ball. I regret exceedingly I had not permitted a drill to have remained until the usual time of gathering in the fall; the experiment might have afforded some valuable information on the subject of growing this most useful of vegetables.

From the frequent experiments I have made, I fully believe that 1000 bushels of potatoes may be raised upon one square acre of land, with less than half the expense it usually costs on four acres, in the common manner of cultivating them. I would most cheerfully communicate the manner I have adopted, in planting, hoeing, &c., the result of 25 years' experience, aided by the valuable information received from others, but presume, like many useful hints daily published in our public journals, it would be reluctantly read, and readily disregarded and forgotten. A. W. BARNUM.

Vergennes, Dec. 24th, 1834.

[☞For an extended account of Mr Barnum's process in the production of the above crop of potatoes, see N. E. Farmer, vol. xiii. page 329.]

"MISS JANE"—THE OURANG OUTANG.

To the Editor of the New England Farmer:

An editor is supposed to know every thing, and therefore *you* need not be informed that this Ourang Outang is the "greatest *lion*" now in this city; but the same omniscience is not accorded to your readers who live in the country, and it may not be amiss to say something concerning her for *their* benefit. Meeting the owner of her in the street, he invited me to call and see her. We accepted his invitation, and were not disappointed in our anticipations that she would exhibit herself interestingly. She did, remarkably so, though it was in the evening, and she had entertained a hundred or more visitors during the day—a circumstance not likely to excite her physical or intellectual powers. She walked erect, ascended a rope to the ceiling, amused herself with a needle and thread, and a picture book, and drank a glass of water with as much apparent *gusto* as an honest "teetotaller." But it was her voice and manners—her expressions of pleasure and pain, and her neatness and civility, in which we took most interest. If displeased, she would grieve and cry like a child, and on the contrary, laugh when pleasant. She was neatly attired in a silk dress, and would not suffer it to be soiled. She attached herself to a little boy, eight or nine years old, who was present, and could not be separated from him by any person but her keeper: a gentleman attempted to take her away, and she bit him. Many Ourang Outangs have been brought to this country; but it is believed, on the authority of distinguished scientific and medical men, that a more perfect specimen has never been exhibited. Human beings have been divided into races—the white, the black, and the yellow races; but another race might be added to these, and it ought to be called the "wild race." *Jane* is evidently a little "wild woman." She does not differ much from any other little woman, except in the developement of what are perenologically called the "reflective faculties," and in the mechanism of her vocal organs. Dr. J. V. C. Smith has said, "that ten minutes devoted to the examination of her head, faciel expression, muscular developements, and general external characteristics would prove more satisfactory to a man of scientific pursuits, than whole tomes of descriptive writing, even from the highest authority."*

"Miss Jane's" apartments are at Young's Saloon, 295 Washington street. B.

*Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, of Jan. 19.

A Discovery for Housekeepers.—A correspondent of the Boston Transcript says that a small quantity of *green sage* placed in the closet, will cause *red ants* to disappear. The Worcester Ægis adds, "If this be true, how much ill temper will be spared to careful housekeepers and nice young maidens, whose sugar-boxes, bread-boxes and cake-boxes, made to shut never so tightly, have been found infested with this vermin at the critical moment when their contents were wanted at the table."

The Kenilworth Hog.—A. B. Allen, of Buffalo, who has returned from Europe, has brought home with him a new breed of hogs, which are denominated Kenilworth. Some of this kind have weighed, when full fatted, 1700 pounds! They stand four feet high, have no bristles, but their hair and color white.—*Western Far.*

EXPERIMENT WITH CORN.

A correspondent of the Nashville Agriculturist says—"The farmers in this section, without a single exception, so far as I know, nub their seed corn, or shell off the grains for about an inch and a half at the small end of the ear, as refuse corn, and some shell off a little at both ends. Last spring when I was planting corn, I nubbed off the small ends of the ears in a half bushel, and had shelled the good corn in another. When I had planted about one third of the patch, I discovered that I had been planting the nubbed corn by mistake. I then sent for the good corn, and planted the balance with it. When the crop was harvested, I found the part planted with the refuse or nubbed corn, to be equally as large, as sound and heavy as that planted with the good corn; therefore it must be all a notion about taking off the nub ends of seed corn, if it is sound."

GREAT YIELD OF CORN.

We find in the Union Agriculturist, a communication from Col. Joel Walker, of Belvidere, Ill., giving an account of corn raised by him the past year. The kinds selected for the experiment were the Chinese Tree corn, 12 rowed; Yellow Dent, 12 rowed; and New Jersey, 8 do.

"The ground was highly manured, at an expense of $3 per acre, lightly plowed and otherwise prepared in the ordinary manner. The seed was planted in hills four feet apart; number of kernels to the hill not remembered. The crop is harvested, and the result is as follows:

Chinese Tree corn,	169 1-2	bush.	shelled,	per acre.
Yellow Dent,	170	"	"	"
New Jersey,	99 3 4	"	"	"

To be sure there was no mistake, each parcel was measured twice; and as the editor of the Agriculturist has vouched for its accuracy, it may be considered one of the most enormous yields on record. Col. Walker also planted a small quantity of the Brown corn; and from its fine appearance and yield, expresses the opinion that it will one day supercede every other variety. Such yields of corn as this, and some of those recorded in our December number, for which premiums were awarded by our county societies, will make Kit Cornhill, who in his communication in our last, *insinivated* his doubts of the reality of such crops, open his eyes wider than ever.—*Albany Cult.*

DOMESTIC FOWLS IN WINTER.

One of the greatest errors that prevails in the management of the domestic fowl, and one which must be destructive of all profit, is the common practice of leaving them to "shirk for themselves" during the winter months. There is no animal on the farm that better repays good keeping than the hen, and with it, there is none that affords so much profit on the capital employed.

The hen should have a close warm roost, for there are few creatures that suffer more from the cold than fowls. They should have a box of gravel, sand, ashes, &c. for them to roll and dust themselves in, to prevent the attacks of those insects to which fowls are subject; they should have access to pulverized limestones or limestone gravel, as this will give material for shell, and contribute to the health of hens; they should have abundance of water, clean and pure, for few animals will drink more frequently or eagerly than hens, if water is within their reach; and no one need expect healthy fowls, or a plentiful supply of eggs, who does not pay strict attention to their supply of food. Indian corn, peas, buckwheat, oats or barley, may be fed to fowls. Potatoes, steamed or boiled, are excellent food for them, but must be fed while warm, as fowls will not eat cold potato, unless driven to it by hunger. Fowls should have access to a warm yard in the sunny days of winter, as warmth is particularly invigorating to them. If confined for any time in a close ill-ventilated room, they will become diseased and feeble, and will require extra attention to repair the evil generated.—*Ibid.*

Rock Salt.—A body of rock salt, like that found in Europe, is stated to have been recently discovered near Abingdon, Virginia, at the depth of two hundred and sixty feet. This is the first that has ever been found in the United States.

From the Albany Cultivator.

ON THE CULTURE OF POTATOES.

Messrs. Gaylord & Tucker—Located as I am, near a village on the banks of the Hudson river, I find the most profitable crops I can raise are potatoes, hay, and oats. I will give you a description of the manner in which I raised my crop of potatoes this year. After mowing a field containing three acres, I put on seventyfive loads of manure in the month of September, and plowed it under immediately after it was spread on the field. In the month of April following, I had the ground made mellow by cross-plowing, and in May planted in rows 2 1-2 feet apart both ways. About ten days after the field was planted, when the sprouts began to break the ground, I had the field plowed with one horse, putting two furrows to the row, throwing the dirt on the rows, which covered the potatoes very deep. I then had them harrowed with a wooden tooth harrow; this threw the small stones and lumps of dirt off the potatoes into the furrows between the rows, and made the field appear like a field of newly sown wheat before it had come up. In a few days the potatoes came up beautifully; all vegetation in the field at this time was destroyed, except the potatoes. In the latter part of June, I had them plowed and hoed once, and that was all the labor bestowed upon them. The field yielded 735 bushels.

I planted another field, containing five acres. I put on twentyfive loads of manure to the acre; it was spread on the sod in the month of April, and plowed under; the potatoes were planted in May. This field could not be tilled as the other: the sod prevented. They were plowed and hoed in the usual manner. The field yielded 910 bushels.

I planted another field, containing five acres, which had been planted with corn the year before, and manured at the same rate previous to planting the corn. I had it tilled in the same manner as the three acre field, which is my practice in cases where it is practicable. This field yielded 875 bushels.

I had 72 loads of potatoes: my wagon and cart hold each 35 bushels—making in all, 2520 bushels.

With my own stock, I make about 100 loads of manure yearly. I buy about 200 loads in the village for 62 1-2 cents the load.

The northern part of Westchester county has suffered very much these two years past for the want of rain. I consider my potatoes about two thirds of a crop. Two years ago, they averaged over 300 bushels to the acre. The plan of covering them with the plow when they are about coming up, saves me twenty or thirty dollars a year in labor, and I think my crop much better. I got the hint from the Cultivator, and I would give the man that wrote the article the credit of it, but I have searched the back volumes, and I cannot find it. If it had not been for the Cultivator, I probably should not have known it; so I save twenty or thirty dollars a year in this one thing, by reading your highly valuable paper.

Respectfully yours,
TYLER FOUNTAIN.

Peekskill, N. Y. Nov. 12, 1841.

Judge Kent says "there are very few evils to which a man is subjected, that he might not avoid, if he would converse more with his wife, and follow her advice." An exchange paper thinks the Judge is a sensible man.

MASSACHUSETTS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Premiums on Crops.

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Massachusetts Society for the Promotion of Agriculture, held Jan. 8, 1842—

The Committee on Crops made a report of the premiums awarded, which was accepted, and they were requested to publish the communications which they had received.

A copy from the record.
BENJ. GUILD, *Rec. Sec.*

The Committee of the Trustees of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society "on Vegetable and Grain Crops," having examined the several claims, award as follows:

To Francis Dodge, of Danvers, for his crop of Indian corn, on one acre, being 105 bushels, weighing 70 2-5 bushels as measured in baskets, or 98 42-75 bushels, of 75 lbs. each, $30

To Frederic Tudor, for his rare crop of sugar beets, grown at Nahant, having had, on 93 rods, 42,284 lbs., which at 56 lbs. the bushel, gives about 1300 bushels to the acre, or 36 tons, 15

To John Noyes, of Newburyport, for his crop of winter rye, being 40 22-32 bushels from 1 1-2 bush. of seed, 20

Mr Leonard Hill, of East Bridgewater, presented his claim for the premium on corn, having produced 92 bushels on 1 acre and 4 rods—almost equal to Mr Dodge's crop.

P. C. BROOKS,
For the Committee.

Corn Crop.

Francis Dodge's Statement.

To the Committee of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society "on Grain Crops":

Gentlemen—I offer for premium a crop of Indian corn, obtained from one acre of land, and measuring one hundred and five bushels. The land is a dark loam, with a subsoil of clayey gravel. I know not the name of this corn, but some of the same was exhibited at the annual meeting of the Essex Agricultural Society at Georgetown. A crop of hay was taken from the land last season, after which it was plowed and sown to turnips and corn. It had at this time a dressing of three cords of manure from the hog yard. In the spring it was cross plowed and harrowed, and four cords of manure from the cellar was spread on, when it was again plowed and furrowed at a distance of three feet four inches one way, and three feet six inches the other: four cords of old manure was put in the hill. This manure was hove well for the purpose of getting it fine. It was planted the 8th and 11th of May; 7 kernels were dropped, and from 5 to 6 stood. It received two hoeings; at each time the cultivator was used. The 27th of September it was cut up and stooked, and harvested the last of October.

Expenses of the Crop.

Interest of land, (valued at $100,)	$6 00
Eight cords of manure, at $6,	48 00
Heaving old manure,	1 00
Plowing twice and harrowing,	6 00
Furrowing,	1 75
Putting out manure,	2 00

Dropping, covering and seed,	2 25
Cultivating twice, and hoeing twice,	7 00
Cutting up and stooking,	2 00
Harvesting and husking,	9 00
	$84 00

Value of Crop, &c.

Half of the manure,	$24 00
105 bushels corn at 80 cts.	84 00
3 1-2 tons fodder at $10,	35 00
	$143 00
From which deduct expense of crop,	84 00
Net profit,	$59 00

FRANCIS DODGE.

North Danvers, Nov. 1841.

This is to certify that I, James Flanders, measured the corn within mentioned, and the number of bushels as stated, was taken from one acre of land. I also weighed several baskets of the above corn, and found it to weigh 70 2-5 lbs. to the bushel.

JAMES FLANDERS.

Land measured by Ansel W. Putnam.

—

SUGAR BEET CROP.

Frederic Tudor's Statement.

To Benj. Guild, Esq.—Sir—In the spring of 1840, I caused about an acre of land, of the pasture lands of this place, to be fenced in and trenched 20 inches deep. The ground had never before had an agricultural instrument of any kind in it. It was a pasture, of indifferent soil, with many stones in and upon it.

The trenching consisted in reversing the soil for 20 inches in depth with the spade, and after put all the stones (which were found) in the bottom; 3 inches of muscle mud were put on them, followed by the turf and best of the soil—then 2 inches of rock weed and kelps, fresh from the shores, or cut from the rocks; then the less rich part of the soil and more muscle mud; the top left with the poorest and most gravelly soil. In all, there were about 8 inches, in perpendicular height, of manure, added to the soil, which when pressed, might have been 5 to 6 inches in perpendicular height; so that the land had been moved with the spade a depth of a little exceeding two feet.

In the spring of 1840 it was sown with sugar beets, but did not do very well, the top soil being so very poor. In the spring of 1841, I had it plowed about 6 inches deep; but the plow did not reach any of the richer parts of the soil below, and exhibited little more than yellow loam and gravel.

I caused 93 rods of this lot to be again sown with sugar beet seed this spring, and after the beets had come up, had the land dressed on the surface, (merely spreading it on,) with 15 cords of rich cow yard manure. This caused the young plants to grow greatly, and the crop has been so large, that I have determined to exhibit it before the State Agricultural Society, and put in a claim for the premium which they have offered, which I beg leave now to do.

I should observe that I had no design of making this claim, until the growth of the beets promised a great return. There has been no particular care of them given, and indeed several patches in the 93 rods were to be seen where the seed had failed, and which should have been filled with plants, if the object had been to try the utmost which was possible. Also, during the dry weather of August, the tops of several of the rows were cut off for fodder for the cows. My own belief is, it would be possible to have produced on the same piece of ground, if much care had been taken, 1600 bushels.

I think the crop which has been thus produced on my land has not been caused by the trenching, but by the looseness of the soil and the top dressing of rich manure, of which I have spoken. The usefulness of a top dressing, more especially in a dry season, is undoubtedly great.

Inclosed are the certificates, which I suppose to be all the Society will require. The whole crop was sold by auction, and the weights given were what the purchasers paid for, when they took the beets. I am your ob't serv't.

FREDERIC TUDOR.

Nahant, Nov. 1*st*, 1841.

NOTE.—The largest beet of the field measured 34 inches in circumference, and weighed 31 lbs., but was hollow-hearted.

The largest sound and perfect beet weighed 21 pounds.

A fair bushel measured of these beets weighed a fraction short of 60 lbs., which gives a fraction over 1217 bushels to the acre. The weight of 50 lbs. to the bushel, which is the usual weight allowed, gives a fraction over 1454 bushels to the acre. As the Agricultural Society have prescribed 56 lbs. to the bushel, the number of bushels per acre at this weight will amount to a small fraction short of 1300. F. TUDOR.

Land measured by Alonzo Lewis.

Weight of crop on 93 rods, 42,284 pounds—as weighed and certified by Ezekiel Peabody, Isaac C. Perkins, and W. G. Perkins.

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RYE CROP.

John Noyes' Statement.

To the Trustees of the Massachusetts Society for the Promotion of Agriculture:

GENTLEMEN—I enter with you for premium, a crop of winter rye. The soil on which it grew is a black loam upon a clay bottom. Potatoes were raised upon the land for three years previous—The produce in 1840 was two hundred bushels. Eight cords of manure used, was plowed in. The last of September, 1840, I sowed one and an half bushel of rye. Reaped the grain July 20, 1841, and threshed within ten days after. The produce was 40 bushels and 22 qts., besides 8 qts. of small grain. Yours, with respect,

JOHN NOYES.

Newbury, Nov. 10, 1841.

Grain measured by John J. Adams. Land measured by Tristram Little.

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CORN CROP.

Leonard Hill's Statement.

To the Trustees of the Massachusetts Society for the Promotion of Agriculture:

GENTLEMEN—The following is a statement of the cultivation and produce of a lot of Indian corn, raised by the subscriber in East Bridgwater.

The land had been planted to potatoes in 1840, and yielded 250 bushels. I put in 16 loads of good manure and had the potatoes hoed three times. This present year, the land was plowed about the middle of May, very deep, with a heavy plow; I furrowed the same very deep one way, 3 feet 8 inches apart; then I put into the furrows 53 horse-cart loads of horse, stable and hog manure, amounting to upwards of nine cords, from the measure of the cart; I then struck off the land the other way with a machine, just two feet apart, and planted; letting (where there were so many,) three stalks stand in a hill: I used eleven quarts of seed; one half yellow, and the other large white corn. I planted it from the 20th to 24th of May. I hoed the same four times, plowing between the rows each time. I hoed the first time the 10th or 11th of June, and the last time the first of July. I cut the stalks, before the 20th September, and cut up the corn and had the same husked and weighed from the 16th of October to the 24th of said month; and there was 173 baskets, weighing more than 40 lbs. to a basket—the whole made 6945 lbs., which is 92 45-75 bushels.

The cultivation cost—

Plowing,	$3 00
Hauling manure, furrowing and planting,	5 00
Hoeing,	6 50
Cutting stalks,	2 50
Harvesting,	7 25
	$24 [illegible]

The foregoing corn was raised on one acre and four rods of land, and was planted, hoed, harvested, and weighed by us. LEONARD HILL,
GEORGE HILL.

Land measured by Josiah Whitman.

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☞*Note by the Editor in relation to Mr Dodge's Statement.*—Mr Dodge appears, by the committee's report, to have obtained 105 bushels of corn per acre by *measurement*, and only 98 bushels by *weight*. This leaves room for the inference that his measurement was scanty. We happen to know that the crop was measured in *October*, for the purpose of entry for premium with the Essex Co. Agricultural Society; and that the weight was not ascertained until late in *November*. We have no doubt that *large corn* will shrink in weight during the first month after it is housed, near ten per cent. In 1839, we found a crop, by actual trial, to shrink between the last of October and the last of November, from 87 1-2 bushels to 79 1-2 bushels. Therefore, had Mr D. *weighed*, when he *measured* in October, it is probable that he would have had by *weight* 105 bushels or more.

Sheep Husbandry.—The Boston Cultivator says that, according to the best calculations there are 34,000,000 sheep in the Union. This is an increase of about 5,000,000 within the last three years. These are worth, at a fair calculation, $70,000,000. About one fifth of all these are found in the single state of New York. These sheep, at three sheep to the acre, would require 11,000,000 acres for their keeping, worth twelve dollars per acre, making the amount of $132,000,000 invested in lands.

The aggregate amount invested in sheep husbandry in the U. States *is*:

In Sheep,	$68,000,000
In Land,	132,000,000
	$200,000,000

The annual crop of wool is estimated at 90,000,000 lbs. and worth nearly $40,000,000.

Read, reflect, and you will gain in knowledge

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

Boston, Wednesday, January 26, 1842.

THIRD AGRICULTURAL MEETING AT THE STATE HOUSE—JAN. 14.

Cultivation of the Potato.

Mr Cole, Editor of the Farmers' Journal, having been requested to open the discussion, stated that he had not prepared a speech, but would make some remarks. He was unable to determine which account was correct, that which considered South America, or that made Virginia the place where the potato was first found. When first introduced into England, it was small and inferior in quality, but has been improved by cultivation. It is now almost every where acclimated; and it is singular that a tropical plant should be improved and should do best in high latitudes.

The planting of *seeds*, and climate, both may have contributed to give us the many varieties that now exist. Where the climate is warm, they do best on a cool soil; at the North, best on lighter soils. He has been most successful in cultivating them upon green sward. Plows late in May or the first of June; the sod decomposes fast, and is serviceable to the crop. If planted very early, they get ripe too early, and do not keep well. Chooses to plant the last of May or first of June.

Fresh horse or ox manure he considers better than that which is rotted. Crop best where manure is put in the hill. Harvesting should not be earlier than the last of September or first of October. When dug, should be kept as much as possible from the action of the air and sun. Close bins in the cellar are good for keeping them. It is well to cover them with earth, sods, boughs, or the like, and to close the cellar as soon as the potatoes are in.

Is large or small seed best? He had made an experiment, putting in the hill in one row a single large potato, and in another row two small ones. The large seed gave 6 bushels, where the small gave 5. Sometimes the difference is greater than this. Much may depend on the season and soil; when these are dry, large does the best, furnishing drink to the plant. Where large seed is selected for many successive years, the variety is improved; if this be not done, it deteriorates. One gentleman in New York, whose experience Mr C. related, had caused a variety to improve by selecting large seed; and so had another man of his acquaintance who had selected for 30 years. Some varieties at times give but few balls—and is not the production of balls an indication of degeneracy?

The taking off the blossoms has been found to increase the crop; sometimes it has nearly doubled the produce. Once Mr C. collected balls where they equaled one quarter the crop of potatoes. It is better to get seed from the South than the North.

Some in cultivating make a hill and others do not. He prefers a small flat hill. Once on hard and rocky land where he could make but little if any hill, he obtained 100 bushels from one eighth of an acre—the land rich. Hills that are surrounded by sods do well.

Mr Plunkett, of Pittsfield, stated that he had made the following experiment. He planted 9 rows, each about 15 rods long; and put in each hill for seed in the rows as follows:

1st row, one large potato—produce,		5 1-2 bush.
2d	" two small do. "	4 1-4 "
3d	" one small do. "	2 3-4 "
4th	" one seed end, "	3 "
5th row, one butt end—produce,		4 1-2 bu. (good.)
6th	" 1-2 of one potato, "	4 1-2 "
7th	" two large potatoes, "	6 "
8th	" one (pinkeye) "	3 "
9th	" one (black kidney) "	4 1-2 "

Size of the produce was prevailingly like that of the seed, excepting where he put two large potatoes, and in that case there were too many small ones. And this shows that while large seed is best, that you may *over seed*. That large parents will produce large offspring, is a law of nature, and holds true as well in vegetables as in animals.

Covering deep always has injurious effects upon this crop. Where the seed is placed deep in the ground, the roots strike out from the stem *near the surface*, and distant from the parent seed. Dr. Campbell, of Pittsfield, has made many experiments, and finds that wilted potatoes will come up the quickest, and are best for an *early* crop. The climate must determine which is the best soil for this crop. Warmer lands at the North than at the South, are most adapted to its growth.

The kidney-shaped and egg-shaped potatoes never do well on a dry soil. They require ground that is damp and not cold. Round potatoes and round oblong, will often do well on dry soils.

The shape is of value in determining the quality of the potato. The round oblong (Merino, Long Red, &c) are the coarsest. Next, the round, (English Whites, Round Blues, &c.,)—then the flat kidney-shaped, (Chenangos, and others like them in shape,) and lastly the egg-shaped. The first kind give very little starch per bushel; the second give 6 lbs.; the third, give 6 3-4 to 7 1-4 lbs.; the fourth give 8 or 8 1-2 lbs. Where the productiveness is great, the quality generally is not good. Where the quality is good, the yield is not great.

Mr Dodge, of Hamilton, stated that some farmers put the manure above the seed in the hills, and inquired whether any one present had tried this method and could give the results.

A gentleman (name not known,) replied that whether it was a good course, depended upon the *soil*. Where that is *dry*, he was understood to prefer the manure on top—but where wet, the manure should be below the seed.

Mr Putnam (Editor,) then stated that his experiences were not worth much, for he had not been very successful with this crop. He however had studied it some during the past year, and would give an opinion.

Bulbous roots do best where there there is a mixture of sand in the soil. This probably, *in part*, because the sand fits the soil to give place or yield easily as the bulb expands. He had noticed too, that where sods surround a hill of potatoes, or stones of such shape as to admit a free circulation of air in the hill, that the potatoes grow large. He inferred that in order to have the tubers of potatoes do well, they should be in a soil or manure that will yield easily to their pressure while they are enlarging, and in one also that admits of a free circulation of air. But the potato, besides having a bulb or tuber, has also fibrous roots, and these fibrous roots, like a fine or pulverized soil and manure; therefore it may be desirous to put a little fine manure in the bottom of the hill for the roots, and then above, put butt stalks, hay, brakes, leaves, brush and the like, to furnish a bed in which the tubers can expand easily and breathe freely. He gave this merely as a theory. (Had he been willing to consume the time, he thinks he could have adduced facts, from which these views would have been no forced inferences.)

Mr Dodge, of Hamilton, as evidence that Mr Plunkett was right in thinking that the egg-shaped potato likes a moist soil, stated that he planted the St. Helena, the first year after obtaining it, in a warm moist soil, and the produce was good—very good; but has since been growing it upon dry soil, and it has been doing very poorly. He prefers the Long Red potato to any other. This has been raised on his farm for many years, and has been improving in quantity and quality. It stands drought well.

Some persons are of opinion that the potato crop is one of the most profitable, and if it be so, it is desirable that farmers generally should be made acquainted with the fact. One gentleman of his acquaintance in West Newbury, raises largely for shipping, sometimes thousands of bushels annually, and thinks it his best crop. This man plants in drills.

Mr Stone, of Beverly, stated, that the question, by what means the greatest amount of this crop can be obtained from a given soil, is an important one. Is any one kind of manure or mode of culture to be preferred to all others? A Mr Barnum, of Vergennes, Vt., states that he has produced 1000, 1200, and even 1500 bushels per acre. [See article headed "Gen. Barnum's Potato Crop," on page 235, of this paper.] He is in a colder climate than ours, and is on a clay soil. He plants in drills running North and South: the drills 20 inches apart and 6 deep; manure in the bottom. Seeds 6 or 10 inches apart. Soon after the potatoes are up, stirs the ground between them, but does not hoe. Then carts on rubbish of all kinds that he can get, and covers the ground over. He says if you hoe, you make pits, and after rain there will be a crust. If you hill, drought may pinch. His application of a coating of old hay, straw, brush, &c., is more expensive than hoeing, but is more profitable. Mr S. then asked, can such a course of culture be adopted here?

Col. Newell, of West Newbury, stated that in Essex county, we get our best potato crops upon peat meadows that have been well drained; and that this fact, since those lands are very light and porous, may favor Mr Putnam's view as to the benefits of air. He rather choses to raise upon old ground, and after the plants are up to harrow the rows, (the *tops* of the rows, if we understood him, and this harrowing is a substitute for a first hoeing,) and subsequently he gives one hoeing. He thinks some other kinds better than the Long Red.

Mr Putnam. The facts that Mr Dodge, whose soil is mostly light, prefers the Long Red, or La Plata; and that Col. Newell, whose soil is clayey, does not prefer *this*, but rather the flat potatoes, go to favor Mr Plunkett's view, that *round* and *oblong round*, are better suited to dry land than are the flat, kidney, or egg-shaped.

Mr Alger, of Chelsea, stated that on lands where he was told that if he did not put a spoonful of lime in the hill, the worms would spoil his crop, he applied the lime, excepting to a small part. Where there was no lime, the worms troubled him, but did not where he limed. He inquired whether it is best to cut the seed.

Mr Stone, of Beverly, suffered from worms where he used barn manure, but not where he applied muck or sea-weed.

Mr Lathrop, of South Hadley, stated that for this crop, he plows well, turns the furrow flat, spreads long manure, and harrows it in. Cuts his seed, if large. Makes no furrow or hole: puts the seed on the surface, and barely covers it. In this way he gets his largest crops. If, however, he had but little manure, he might put it in the hill; but if so, he would keep the manure up at the surface. He wishes to obtain *quantity*, and, excepting a few for table use, plants the kinds that prove with him most productive, which are the Rohans and Merinos. [We think the Merinos of the farmers from the western part of the State, are the Long Reds of the

Eastern—i. e. the La Plata—but on this point there is some doubt.—ED.]

The gentleman who next addressed the meeting, was not heard by us with sufficient distinctness to enable us to report his remarks.

Mr Merriam, Ed. Cultivator, thinks that if the soil is wet, it is best to use coarse manure, and put it under the potatoes. But in other soils he would not do this, for fresh strong manure under them, is apt to produce worms. If the manure be spread, the worms do not appear. Plaster increased his crop one fifth. He gave various facts which rendered it probable that a little salt in the manure will keep off the worms.

Question for discussion at the next meeting—*the Cultivation of Fruit Trees.*

Correction.—Mr Merriam informs us that in our report of his remarks last week, we misrepresented him in two expressions. He had watched Congress with an *eagle* eye—not an "evil eye." Also, he regards *muck* as very valuable, and did not call it a "*trifle*."

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, for the week ending Jan. 28.

Jan. 1842.		6,A.M.	12, M.	5,P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	17	15	36	36	S. W.
Tuesday,	18	30	45	36	N. E.
Wednesday,	19	34	49	48	S.
Thursday,	20	37	52	50	S. E.
Friday,	21	50	51	44	E.
Saturday,	22	26	30	27	N. W.
Sunday,	23	10	14	18	N. W.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—MONDAY, Jan. 24, 1842.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

At Market 300 Beef Cattle, 1475 Sheep and 140 Swine.

PRICES.—*Beef Cattle.* We quote to correspond with last week viz. First quality, $5 50 a 5 75. Second quality, $4 75 a 5 25. Third quality $3 50 a 4 50.

Sheep.—Sales dull. Two lots were sold by live weight; one lot at 3 1-2, and one at 4, both lots stall fed; lots were sold from $1,50 to 45.

Swine.—Two lots were sold, one for less, nd one for a fraction more than 4c., more than half barrows—very few were sold at retail.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $3 00 to 3 25 per bushel. Red Top, 50 to 55 cents. Clover—Northern, 13c.—Southern, 12 to 13 c. Flax Seed, $1 89 to 1 85 bu. Lucerne, 25 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $4 00 a 4 50 per bushel.

GRAIN. The transactions since the last report have not been to any great extent; prices have been uniform throughout the week, with a slight improvement at the close. Sales consist of yellow flat Corn, 61c, white do., of which there is now none of any consequence in first hands, 58c.; old yellow, 65 a 66c. per bushel; Delaware Oats 47c.; 7000 bushels English do. extra weight and quality, 55c. per bushel.

Corn—Northern, bushel 68 to 69—do. Round Yellow 65 a 66—do. Southern Flat Yellow 60 a 62—White do. 57 a 58—Barley 65 a 68—Oats—Southern 46 a 48—Northern do. 48 to 50—Beans, per bushel 75 a 1 50.

FLOUR. Since the last report there has been more business done in Genesee, and at the close but few holders were disposed to sell at $6 25 for good common brands, the arrivals of late being small and the stock at market materially diminished. Sales fancy 6 37 a $6 44 per bbl. cash. A few hundred barrels Fredericksburg sold at $6 12, 4 mos.; and 200 do. Georgetown at the same price and credit.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. $6 25 a 6 37—do wharf, $6 12 a 6 18—do. free of garlic, $6 25—Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $6 12 a 6 18—Fredericksburg, lowl'd 4 mos. $6 12 a 6 18—Alexandria, wharf mountain, $6 12 a 6 18—Georgetown, $6 25 a 6 37—Richmond Canal, $6 25—do. City, $7 00 a 7 25—Genesee, common, cash, $6 25 a 6 31—do fancy brands $6 37 a 6 44—Ohio via Canal, $5,87—Indian Meal in bbls., $3 00 a 3 25.

PROVISIONS. For all descriptions there exists a very limited demand, sales being chiefly confined to the supplies required for vessels' stores. The sales of Lard by auction and private contract comprise 1800 kegs, at former, 5 5-8 a 5 3-4c. per lb; 600 do. do, private 5 1-4 a 6c. per lb. 4 mos. cr; 100 bbls Western Prime Pork, common, $4 3 9 per bbl. Beef—Mess, 4 mo. new bbl. $10 00—Navy—$8 50 a 9 00—No. 1 $8 00—do Prime $5 00 a 5 50—Pork—Extra clear, 4 mo. bbl. $13—do Clear $11 a 12—do Mess $8 50 a 9 50—do Prime $7 50 a 8 00—do Mess from other States $8 25 a 9 50—do Prime $7 00 a 7 50.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 8 cts. per pound, free. All whereof the value exceeds 8 cts. per pound, 32 per ct. ad val. and 4 cts per pound.

Sales of fleece and pulled continue to be made to considerable extent at the recent reduced prices. For foreign coarse there is only a limited demand.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 47 a 50 c.—American full blood, do 43 a 46—Do. 3-4 do 40 a 41—Do. 1-2 do 35 a 37—1-4 and common do 30 a 32—Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 26—Do. unwashed, 10 a 14—Bengasi do 8 a 10—Saxony, clean, — Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 12 a 16—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 37 a 42—No. 1 do. do. do. 35 a 37—No. 2 do do do 25 a 30—No. 3 do do do 18 a 20.

HAY, per ton, $20 to 25—Eastern Screwed $19 to 20.

CHEESE—Shipping and 4 meal, 4 to 6c.—New 5 to 8.

EGGS, 16 a 25.

FARMS FOR SALE.

To be sold, a Farm containing about ninety acres of Land, beautifully situated, one mile and a quarter from the centre of Billerica, on the main road leading from Lowell to Boston; 7 miles from the former, and 17 miles from the latter place. There is a large Dwelling House thereon, suitable for two families; also a large Barn. Also, an establishment built two years since for keeping swine, with an apparatus for boiling with steam, and having every other convenience for the business. Also a Wood Shed, Chaise House, Granary, and Cider Mill House, with a Grater Mill.

Also, another Farm adjoining the above, containing about thirty-five acres of Land, having a Dwelling House and large Shop built two years ago, for a shoe establishment. The above named lands are of an excellent quality of every variety of soil, well calculated for profitable farming, and especially adapted to Fruit, Hay and Vegetables for market, and containing more than 800 Fruit Trees.—Said estate can be conveniently divided so as to make three good farms, or the shop with five or six acres of land can be sold separately to suit purchasers.

The above property if not previously sold at private sale, will be sold at Public Auction on Thursday the 17th of March next at 10 o'clock A. M. on the premises.

Any gentleman from the city, wishing a handsome situation for a country residence, or any farmer or mechanic wishing to purchase, may do well to call and view the premises. Inquire of the subscriber, living near the same.

SERENO FISK.

Billerica, Jan. 19, 1842. 1st 17M.

FARMER WANTED.

The advertiser is in want of a man, with or without a family, to take the general charge of a small farm. One that can bring testimonials of unquestionably good moral character, and industrious habits, and of good acquaintance with the principles of improved husbandry, will learn of a desirable situation by addressing immediately post paid, box No. 37 Providence R. I. 3p Jan. 19

POUDRETTE.

500 Barrels Poudrette may be had on application to the subscriber, at $2 per barrel of *four* bushels each—delivered on board of vessel in this city. Orders by mail, enclosing the money will be promptly attended to, if received soon by D. K. MINOR, Agent, 120 Nassau st., New York.

Jan, 5, 1842.

EDMUND T. HASTINGS & CO.

Pure Sperm Oil.

No. 101 State St, keep constantly for sale, Winter, Spring and Fall Sperm Oil, bleached and unbleached; which they warrant to be of the best quality and to burn without crusting.

Oil Canisters of various sizes.

Boston, Jan. 1, 1841. 1sly

SUN DIALS.

Just received a few of Sheldon & Moore's, Sun Dials, a very neat and useful article for the purpose of giving the time of day in the garden or field. Price 75 cents. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., No 51 and 52 North Market St.

Sept 1.

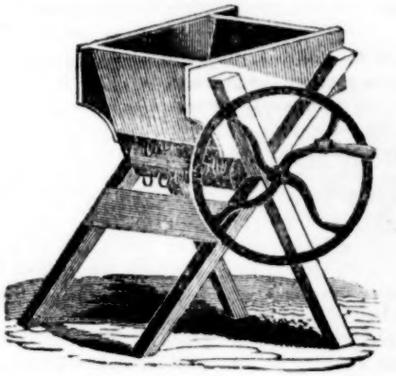
FENCE CHAINS.

Just received from England, 10,000 feet Chains, suitable for Fences or other purposes. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., No. 52 North Market st. April 21

GRINDSTONES.

An extensive assortment of Water and Hand Grindstones constantly on hand and for sale by AMMI C. LOMBARD & CO. 13 Lewis's Wharf. 1sly. Nov. 17.

WILLIS'S LATEST IMPROVED VEGETABLE CUTTER.



This machine surpasses all others for the purpose of cutting Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurtzel, and other roots. The great objection to other machines, is their cutting the roots into slices, which makes it almost impossible for the cattle to get hold of them; this machine with a little alteration, cuts them into large or small pieces, of such shape as is most convenient for the cattle to eat. It will cut with ease from one to two bushels of roots per minute.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, No 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston. Sept. 1

L'ETANG LIME

Farmers in want of Lime for Agricultural purposes will find it greatly to their advantage to try the St. George Co's. L'Etang Lime, said to be superior for that purpose to any other ever yet introduced. For sale by DAVID DAVIS, over the Hope Insurance Office, State St., Boston.

Sept. 8. 3m

HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches; to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside; this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough, sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

DRAFT AND TRACE CHAINS.

Just received by Packet Coromandu,

400 pair Trace Chains, suitable for Ploughing.

200 " Truck and leading Chains.

200 " Draft Chains. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., No. 52 North Market st. April 21

TEMPERANCE AT WASHINGTON.

We find the following letter in the Albany Argus:

WASHINGTON CITY, Jan. 7, 1842.

E. C. Delavan, Esq.—My Dear Sir—For some weeks past the temperance cause in this city has excited an unusual interest, which has been followed by some very extraordinary results. Temperance meetings have been held two or three evenings every week; the great transparent painting which I have forwarded to you, representing the condition of the drunkard's stomach in the various stages of intemperance, has been exhibited and explained; crowds have thronged the houses to see and to hear, and multitudes have signed the total abstinence pledge, many of whom have been abandoned drunkards for years. The hearts of the most despondent are cheered, and we confidently look forward to the time when this city shall stand redeemed, and intemperance be swept from the metropolis of the country.

A most animating and glorious scene was witnessed at the meeting of our *Freeman's Vigilant Total Abstinence Society*, held at the Medical College this evening, which I will briefly describe. The name of Thomas F. Marshall, a member of Congress from Kentucky, nephew of the late Chief Justice Marshall, is doubtless familiar to you. His intellect is of a very high order, and his mind of that peculiar and original cast which gives pungency, power and eloquence to all his efforts in the House of Representatives; and he possesses also a warm, generous and philanthropic heart. But while he has been admired for the splendor of his genius, and loved for the qualities of his heart, and while we have felt proud of him as an American orator, all have wept over him: yes, all—political friends and political opponents—have wept over him as a lost and ruined man. But this day, Thomas F. Marshall, while in the Hall of Representatives, came to the conclusion that he was lost forever, without a speedy and entire reformation, and deliberately formed the resolution to join a temperance society. This evening he was accompanied by his friend Mr Briggs and myself to the temperance meeting at the college, where he placed his name on the parchment roll, and took the total abstinence pledge; after which he rose and made a most touching and eloquent address, detailing some interesting incidents in the history of his life. Among other things, he said he was not ashamed of the act which he had consummated; that he was not only willing that this step should be known to the society, but to Congress—to the nation—to the world. After he sat down, Mr Briggs rose, and from an overflowing heart made an address full of power and pathos. Several other speeches followed, and an impression was made upon the audience which will not soon be effaced. Several other members of Congress followed Mr Marshall's example and placed their names under his upon the roll.

I need not tell you, that this event, while it is destined to heal a mother's wounds, will cause a whole State—nay, a whole nation to rejoice over the return of a lost favorite son.

Let us now have the example of the President and his Cabinet; let them banish from their tables and social parties, the use of wine and other intoxicating drinks; and let the members of Congress sustain us by the influence of their example, and the great object will soon be accomplished, and we shall become a happy, virtuous and wealthy people.

Very truly yours, THOS. SEWALL.

SELF-PRESUMPTION.

It is with nations as with individuals, those who know the least of others, think the highest of themselves; for the whole family of pride and ignorance are incestuous, and mutually beget each other.—The Chinese affect to despise European ingenuity, but they cannot mend a common watch; when it is out of order, they say it is dead, and barter it away for a living one. The Persians think that all foreign merchants come to them from a small island in the northern waters, barren and desolate, which produces nothing good or beautiful; "for why else," say they, "do the Europeans come to us for such things, if they are to be had at home?" The Turk will not permit the sacred cities of Mecca or Medina to be polluted by the residence or even footstep of a single Christian; and as to the grand Dairo of Japan, he is so holy that the sun is not permitted to have the honor of shining on his illustrious head. The king of Malacca styles himself lord of the winds; and the Mogul, to be equal with him, titles himself conqueror of the world, and his grandees are denominated rulers of the thunder storm and steersmen of the whirlwind: even the pride of Xerxes, who fettered the sea, and wrote his commands to Mount Athos; or of Caligula, who boasted of an intrigue with the moon, are both surpassed by the petty sovereign of an insignificant tribe in North America, who every morning stalks out of his hovel, bids the sun good-morrow, and points out to him with his finger, the course he is to take for the day: and to complete this climax of pride and ignorance, it is well known that the Khan of Tartary, who does not possess a single house under the canopy of heaven, has no sooner finished his repast of mare's milk and horse flesh, than he causes a herald to proclaim from his seat, that all the princes and potentates of the earth have his permission to go to dinner!—*Lacon.*

WALKING ON WATER.—A gentleman of Cincinnati has invented a life preserver, by which the power of locomotion is retained in the water, in an upright position. It consists of a garment, water tight to encase the feet, legs and to the body near the arms, and near the latter is fitted a large life preserver. To the hands are fixed paddles. Having witnessed an experiment in front of the city, where the wearer entered the water and passed down the channel for a distance of fourteen hundred feet, the editor of the Cincinnati Gazette testifies that the buoyant power of this garment is so great as to float any one for hours, without getting wet.

Pretty Fair.—A distinguished counsellor at Nantucket, found a ball of yarn in the street, and winding up the thread, he followed it until he overtook the lady who dropped the ball and had the other end of the thread in her pocket. The counsellor made his polite bow, put on his blandest smile, and returning her the ball, said, "I have often heard of ladies *spinning street yarn*, but never caught one at it before."—*New Bedford Reg.*

A good story is related of President Humphrey, of Amherst College. One morning before recitations, some of the students fastened a live goose to the President's chair. When he entered the room, and discovered the new occupant of his seat, he turned upon his heel and coolly observed, "Gentlemen, I perceive you have a competent instructor, and I will therefore leave you to your studies."

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, &c.

The Proprietors of the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store No. 51 and 52 North Market street, would inform their customers and the public generally that they have on hand the most extensive assortment of Agricultural and Horticultural Tools to be found in the United States. Part of which are the following:

1000 Howard's Patent Cast Iron Ploughs	100 doz. Cast Steel Shovels.
300 Common do. do.	150 " Common do.
200 Cultivators.	100 " Spades.
100 Greene's Straw Cutters.	500 " Grass Scythes.
50 Willis' do. do.	300 " atent Snaiths.
100 Common do. do.	200 " Common do.
100 Willis' Patent Corn Shellers.	500 " Hay Rakes.
50 Common do do.	200 " Garden do.
200 Willis' Seed Sowers.	200 " Manure Forks.
50 " Vegetable Cutters	300 " Hay do.
50 Common do. do.	500 Pair Trace Chains.
200 Hand Corn Mills.	100 " Truck do.
200 Grain Cradles.	100 Draft do.
100 Ox Yokes.	500 Tie up do.
1500 Doz. Scythe Stones.	50 doz. Halter do.
3000 " Austin's Rifles.	1000 yards Fence do.
	25 Grind Stones on rollers.

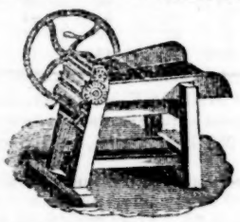
March 17.

APPLE PARERS.

Just received at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 and 52 North Market Street, a good supply of *Stanley's Superior Apple Parers*, a very useful article. With one of these machines a bushel of apples may be pared in a very short time in the best possible manner, and with great saving of the apple, as the outsides may be taken off at any required thickness. The above is also for sale at N. P. H WILLIS', No. 45 North Market Street, SCUDDER, CORDIS & CO., and HOSMER & TAPPAN, Milk Street.

Sept. 1 6w JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

GREEN'S PATENT STRAW CUTTER.



JOSEPH BRECK & CO. at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, have for sale, Green's Patent Straw, Hay and Stalk Cutter, operating on a mechanical principle not before applied to any implement for this purpose. The most prominent effects of this application, and some of the consequent peculiarities of the machine are:

1. So great a reduction of the quantum of power requisite to use it, that the strength of a half grown boy is sufficient to work it efficiently.
2. With even this moderate power, it easily cuts two bushels a minute, which is full twice as fast as has been claimed by any other machine even when worked by horse or steam power.
3. The knives, owing to the peculiar manner in which they cut, require sharpening less often than those of any other straw cutter.
4. The machine is simple in its construction, made and put together very strongly. It is therefore not so liable as the complicated machines in general use to get out of order.

GRINDSTONES, ON FRICTION ROLLERS.

Grindstones of different sizes hung on friction rollers and moved with a foot treader, is found to be a great improvement on the present mode of hanging grindstones. The ease with which they move upon the rollers, renders them very easy to turn with the foot, by which the labor of one man is saved, and the person in the act of grinding, can govern the stone more to his mind by having the complete control of his work. Stones hung in this manner are becoming daily more in use, and wherever used, give universal satisfaction. The rollers can be attached to stones hun in the common way.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Boston. July 14

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within thirty days.

N. B.—Postmasters are permitted by law to frank all subscriptions and remittances for newspapers, without expense to subscribers.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS.